INFORMATION REPORT INFORMATION REPORT

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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SUBJECT	New Weapons in Use	in the	DATE DISTR.	3 October 1955 25X1		
	Csechoslovak Army		NO. OF PAGES	2	25 X 1	
DATE OF INFO.			REQUIREMENT NO.	RD		
PLACE ACQUIRED			REFERENCES			
DATE ACQUIRED		This is UNEV	ALUATED Information			

- 1. During the reserve officers refresher training given in spring 1955 the officers were given instructions on weapons recently introduced into the Czechoslovak Army.
- 2. One of these was a new antitank rocket launcher which is an improved model based on the German Panserfaust. It is equipped with mechanical and optical sight and has the following characteristics:

Maximum ranges 600 meters.

Effective range: stationary tank - 300 meters.

moving tank - 150 meters. tank in trench - 75 meters,

Initial velocity: 140 meters per second,

Weight of the charge: 3 kilograms,

Total weight: 4.8 - 5.8 kilograms.

If the charge hits a solid target within the distance of 30 meters, the pressure which is produced by the explosion may even kill the firing crew. The projectile can allegedly penetrate all types of armor plates known to be produced by the West.

3. Another new weapon is a recoilless AT guns

Length: 147.8 centimeters.

Weight: 20 kilograms (including the undercarriage).

Maximum ranges 2,300 meters.

Rate of fire: 6 rounds per minute.

Initial velocity: 280 meters per second.

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Calibers 820 millimeters.

Weight of the rounds 3.8 kilograms.

Effective range: stationary tank - 800 meters, moving tank - 300 meters, tank in trench - 150 meters,

The barrel has a smooth surface without threads. Charging is done from the rear. The length of the charge including the cartridge case is 45 centimeters. Inside, along the cartridge, are two supercharges which catch fire as soon as the cartridge touches the ground. The central part of the barrel is filled with special material of low conductivity in order to protect the gunner from getting burnt. The sight is mechanical and optical. Two kinds of rounds are used: armor-piercing (against armor plate and concrete) and grepade (against live targets). Firing can be performed in upright, kneeling or lying position. The crew includes a leader, rifleman, loader, and assistant. The weapon penetrates armorplate of all tanks known in the West and demolishes a concrete wall up to one meter thick. A technical drawback of the weapon is that the projectile is very sensitive to heat, and the deviation may reach up to 10 degrees at 30° Celsius.

- The Czech Army also uses an improved model of a medium tank of Soviet design, but the informant knows nothing further about it.
- 4. There is an improved model of a light machine gun. The unloading and loading mechanisms have been simplified. Loading can be performed either by belts or magazines.

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